



FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
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Announcement Number: FDA-8-4027

Opening Date: August 4, 1998

Closing Date: September 15, 1998

Position Title: Interdisciplinary Scientist

Series & Grade: GS- 13 ; 487 [Animal Science], 701 [Veterinary Medical Officer]

Promotion Potential: 13

Salary Range: \$54,629 - \$71,017 per annum

Area of Consideration: All Sources - This is a combined announcement for both competitive examining (external hiring) and merit promotion. Applicants without status are only eligible to apply under competitive examining. Applicants with status who wish to be considered under both types of recruitment must submit two separate applications. If only one application is received, status applicants will be considered under merit promotion procedures only.

Type of Appointment: Career/Career Conditional

Relocation expenses: Will not be paid

Organization, Duty Location: DHHS, FDA, Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM), Office of Surveillance and Compliance, Division of Animal Feeds, Nutrition and Labeling Branch, 7500 Standish Place, MPNII, Rockville, MD,

Commissioned Corps candidates may apply.

JOB SUMMARY: The incumbent of this position serves in the Division of Animal Feeds, Office of Surveillance and Compliance, Center for Veterinary medicine. **Specific duties include:**

- ▶ Serves as the scientific reviewer of relevant nutritional and safety data for companion animal foods, and identifies and recommends policies and programs to ensure the safety of companion animal food.
- ▶ Reviews food additive petitions (FAP), informal opinions, and citizen petition (CP) and inquiries from manufactures or other individuals applying for the use of new ingredients and substances in companion animal food for proof of utility and animal safety, and for the adequacy of warning statements and directions for use.
- ▶ Provides biological interpretation of the statistical analysis upon which the recommendation of approval, incompleteness, or disapproval of petitions and informal requests.
- ▶ Reviews inquiries from State and FDA field personnel on the adequacy of companion animal food labeling and the safety of ingredients in such food.
- ▶ Reviews consumer complaints and recommends the appropriate Agency action regarding companion animal food.
- ▶ Reviews establishment inspection reports, inspection observations and regulatory recommendations, and prepares health hazard evaluations involving companion animal products and recommends appropriate Agency action. Reviews proposed legal actions, in connection with enforcement activities on companion animal foods, and offers suggestion on the basis of conformance with overall policies and on whether or not scientific/medical evidence to sustain the contentions of the Food and Drug Administration are available or can be acquired.
- ▶ Keeps abreast of the current science through review of the literature dealing with the scientific principles related to the nutrition and safety of food ingredients, feed additives and related substances used in companion animal food, and through attendance at professional meetings.
- ▶ Provides similar scientific assistance on the safety of feeds intended for other animals including poultry, livestock, exotics, and zoo animals.

QUALIFICATIONS:

ANIMAL SCIENCE, GS-487

Applicants must show either:

(A) Degree in animal science, dairy science, poultry science; or a related discipline or field of animal science that included at least 30 semester hours in the basic biological and agricultural sciences, and 20 semester hours in animal science.

-For animal scientist positions, at least 10 of the required 20 semester hours in animal science must have been in courses dealing with the breeding, feeding, production, and management of livestock, and the care and preparation of their products.

-For dairy scientist positions, at least 10 of the required 20 semester hours in animal science must have been in dairy science.

-For poultry scientist positions, at least 10 of the required 20 semester hours in animal science must have been in poultry science.

OR

(B) Combination of education and experience - courses equivalent to a major in the basic biological and agricultural sciences, including a minimum of 20 semester hours in appropriate animal science subjects, as described in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER, GS-701

Applicants must possess a degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine or equivalent degree at a school approved or accredited by (a) the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), (b) a State department of education, or (c) a State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

Graduates of foreign veterinary medical schools who do not meet the requirements specified above must furnish proof of (a) graduation from a veterinary medical school, (b) comprehension of and ability to communicate in the English language, and (c) passage of the written examination in veterinary medicine of the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates of the U.S. National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. Proof of English language proficiency may be met by (1) achieving a total score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language at least 550 with a listening comprehension score of at least 60 points, (2) earning an advanced degree (i.e., an M.S. or Ph.D.) at a U.S. college or university, or (3) graduating from a U.S. or Canadian English speaking high school. The following are exceptions to these requirements:

- Veterinarians who qualified between 1965 and 1972, who hold certificates under the program of the Educational Commission for Foreign Graduates.
- Veterinarians who are graduates of foreign veterinary colleges that were included on the September 1, 1963, list entitled, "Foreign Veterinary Colleges Evaluated by the Council on Education, American Veterinary Medical Association, : and who entered the United States or Canada and qualified as eligible for private practice or Federal employment on or before December 31, 1972.

Candidates must have 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to next lower grade level to the position of the position to which they are applying.

Specialized experience is experience which is typically in or directly related to the work of the position such as: Experience developing, collecting, analyzing and/or evaluating data or regulations pertaining to food-producing animals species.

In addition to the above qualifications, candidates must meet the following selective factor: The incumbent must demonstrate advanced nutrition training at the graduate level and experience in collecting, analyzing and evaluating animal nutrition research data.

Candidates must meet all qualification requirements, including time-in-grade, within 30 days after the closing date.

EVALUATION METHOD:

Candidates found basically qualified will be further evaluated by determining the extent to which their work or related experience, education, training, awards, etc., indicate their possession of the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA's) described below.

- 1. Knowledge of companion animal nutritional practices, clinical nutrition, nutritional toxicology, and biochemistry.**
- 2. Knowledge of the principles, theories, practices, and established methodology for conducting scientific investigations and evaluations.**
- 3. Knowledge of companion animal care and management.**
- 4. Ability to communicate orally and in writing.**

HOW TO APPLY:

- A. Candidates may submit an Application for Federal Employment (SF-171), an Optional Application for Federal Employment (OF 612), resume, curriculum vitae, or any other written format. Your application **must** include the following information:

VACANCY INFORMATION

*Vacancy Announcement Number, Title, Grade

PERSONAL INFORMATION

*Full legal name

*Mailing address

*Social Security Number

*Home and Work telephone numbers

*Birth Date

*Citizenship

*Reinstatement eligibility

*Highest Federal civilian grade held (give job series, dates held)

EDUCATION (Transcripts may be substituted for most of the following)

*Date of high school graduation or GED

*Name, location and dates of each college/university attended

*Type of degree(s), if any, date(s) received

*Major field of study

*Total semester or quarter hours

*Undergraduate GPA or class rank

EXPERIENCE - most relevant to this position include:

*Name of employer (Supervisor)

*Address and telephone number of employer

*Dates of employment (month/year)

*Job title

*Brief description of your duties and responsibilities for each job listed

*Average hours worked for each position if less than 40 hours per week

TRAINING-To receive credit for relevant training:

*List of course titles, dates, number of hours attended and name(s) of the institution(s)

HONORS AND AWARDS-If relevant to position for which applying

*Description of honors and/or awards along with dates acquired

SKILLS/SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS-If relevant to the position for which applying

*Language skills (other than English)

*License(s) and date(s) acquired

*Typing Speed/Words Per Minute (WPM)

*Dictation Speed/WPM

- B. Additional information/completed forms to be submitted, if checked; failure to submit requested information/documents may result in nonconsideration or a lower rating in the evaluation process.

☒ Written response to the knowledge, skills and abilities

☐ If claiming veterans' preference, see additional information on this form

☒ College transcripts or list of courses, including title, credit hours and grade for each course if qualifying on education and/or changing occupational series; see additional information on this form for foreign education*

☒ Current federal employees - most recent performance appraisal/evaluation

☒ Current **and** former federal employees - a copy of most recent complete SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action, to verify status

*Qualifying education gained at college and universities in foreign countries **must** be evaluated in terms of its equivalency to that acquired in American colleges and universities. Applicants educated in whole or in part in foreign countries must submit sufficient evidence, including transcripts, to an accredited private organization for an equivalency evaluation. A letter containing the results **MUST** accompany the application package.

C. In addition to the above, Career Transition Assistance Plan (CTAP)/Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP) applicants must submit a copy of their specific RIF notice or other acceptable documentation, and documentation from their human resources office reflecting the promotion potential of their most recent federal position.

Surplus or Displaced Employees in the Department of Health And Human Services (DHHS) Requesting Special Selection Priority Consideration Under The Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP)

If you are currently a DHHS employee you may be entitled to special priority selection under the DHHS Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP). To receive priority consideration, you must:

1. Be a current DHHS employee serving under an appointment in the competitive or excepted service in tenure group I or II, in receipt of (1) a **Reduction in Force (RIF) specific separation notice**, (2) a **notice of proposed removal for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function outside of the commuting area**, (3) a **Certificate of Expected Separation (CES)**, or (4) **other official notice that indicates the employee is surplus or eligible for discontinued service retirement (DSR) or as being in a surplus organization or occupation, and the date of the separation has not passed and you are still on the rolls of DHHS. You must submit a copy of the separation notice, CES, or other official notice along with your application in order to receive special priority consideration;**
2. Be applying for a position that is at or below the grade level of the position from which you are being separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you are being separated;
3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. ***This must be submitted with your application package;***
4. Be currently employed by DHHS in the same commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration;
5. Submit your application (including all required documentation) by the vacancy announcement closing date and meet all the application criteria; **and**
6. Be rated well qualified for the position.
“Well Qualified” means: a surplus/displaced employee must meet the minimum qualifications and eligibility requirements for the position, including any documented selective factor(s), and be rated and ranked under the same procedures as merit promotion applicants to determine the extent to which he/she possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) to succeed in the position being filled. A cut-off score will be used to determine the well qualified applicant(s).

Displaced Employees Requesting Special Selection Priority Consideration Under The Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP)

If you are a displaced Federal employee you may be entitled to receive priority selection under the ICTAP.

To be eligible for the special selection priority, you must meet all of the following:

- (1) **Be a displaced Federal employee;**
- (2) **Submit a copy of your current (or your last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent;**
- (3) **Apply for a vacancy at or below the grade level from which you were or are being separated, that does not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you have been or are being separated from;**
- (4) **Occupy, or was displaced from a position in the same local commuting area of the vacancy;**
- (5) **Submit an application (including all required documentation) for a specific vacancy within the time frames established on the announcement and meet all the application and eligibility criteria;**
- (6) **Submit proof of eligibility; and**
- (7) **Be rated well qualified for the position.**
“Well Qualified” means: a displaced employee must meet the minimum qualification and eligibility requirements for the position (including any selective factors), and be rated and ranked to determine the extent to which he/she possesses the knowledge, skill, and abilities (KSAs) to succeed in the position being filled. Under merit promotion procedures, a cut-off score will be used to determine the well qualified applicant(s). Under delegated examining procedures, the displaced employee must receive a score of 90 or better to receive selection priority.

Displaced employees may submit any (one) of the following as proof of eligibility for the special selection priority:

- (1) IF separation notice, or notice of proposed removal for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function to another commuting area;
- (2) Documentation, e.g., SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action, showing that you were separated as a result of RIF, or for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function to another commuting area;
- (3) Official certification from an agency stating that it cannot place an individual whose injury compensation has been or is being terminated;

This is a competitive vacancy, open to all United States citizens, advertised under examining authority delegated to the Food and Drug Administration by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.